Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0091] with the following replacement paragraph [0091]:

[0091]   Then, at step 930, the query type is encoded, describing which objects to retrieve from a type or any subtype of that type. For each element in the histogram, it is determined at step 940 if the encoded query type is a prefix of the histogram entry. If it is, then at step 950, the number of elements associated with this histogram step is added to the number of other "matching elements" from the histogram. If it is not a prefix, then at step 960, the number of elements associated <u>with</u> ~~to~~ this histogram step is added to the "non-matching elements" from the histogram.